

House of Representatives to require that legislation and conference reports be available on the Internet for 72 hours before consideration by the House, and for other purposes. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and any amendment thereto to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules; (2) an amendment, if offered by the Minority Leader or his designee and if printed in that portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII at least one legislative day prior to its consideration, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order or demand for division of the question, shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for twenty minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit which shall not contain instructions. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of House Resolution 554.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's *Precedents of the House of Representatives*, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the *Floor Procedures Manual* published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's *Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives*, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I thank my colleague for co-managing this rule. I appreciate his concerns about jobs. I know it's a top priority for our caucus and one we will be talking about in the coming weeks and days. I want to finish my remarks by focusing on the important contribution of firefighters.

Mr. Speaker, the fire service in this country is being asked to do more than ever before—from hazmat response and safety planning for schools to EMT duties and homeland security responsibilities. These days, fire departments do much more than spray water on burning buildings. Or, as one of my firefighter friends says, much more than "putting the wet stuff on the red stuff." These increased responsibilities are why these programs are so vitally important.

My home State of Maine has used these programs to great success. During fiscal year 2008, Maine received almost \$5 million in AFG funding and close to \$1 million in SAFER grants. But these numbers alone do not tell the whole story. The real success of these programs is told through the stories of those whose lives have been saved and those whose jobs have been preserved.

In 2005, a Maine fire department received an AFG grant to purchase smoke alarms and install those in homes that did not meet the level of protection recommended by the National Fire Protection Association. Just 2 months after the local fire department began installing the smoke alarms, firefighters were called to a house where smoke had been detected in the basement. The family of six living in the home was awakened by a smoke alarm and they were able to escape before any of them suffered a serious injury. The smoke alarm had been bought and installed with funding from the AFG program.

The town of Saco, Maine, recently used these programs to install an exhaust system for the fire station so the building doesn't fill up with diesel exhaust every time the fire trucks start up. And the town of Brunswick, a community facing the challenges of a Navy

base closure, the department was able to hire critically needed firefighters thanks to a SAFER grant.

But, Mr. Speaker, I think some of the real success stories lie in our rural communities, communities often staffed by volunteer fire departments. Just like bigger communities, those small-town fire departments are being asked to do more, but acquiring the equipment they need is often beyond the scope of small-town municipal budgets. Through these programs, small-town volunteer fire departments in my State have been able to acquire the turnout coats, the breathing apparatus, and the hazmat suits to do the job effectively and safely.

Mr. Speaker, I am a proud cosponsor of this bill and I will continue to be a strong supporter of the men and women who put their lives on the line to keep our businesses, our homes, and our communities safe.

I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois). The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 214

*Resolved by the House or Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, November 19, 2009, or Friday, November 20, 2009, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, November 20, 2009, through Wednesday, November 25, 2009, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, November 30, 2009, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.*

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the

House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 214 will be followed by 5-minute votes on ordering the previous question on House Resolution 909; and adoption of House Resolution 909, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 243, nays 166, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 896]

YEAS—243

Abercrombie	Engel	Loebsack
Ackerman	Eshoo	Lofgren, Zoe
Andrews	Etheridge	Lowey
Baca	Farr	Luján
Baird	Fattah	Lummis
Baldwin	Filner	Lynch
Barrow	Foster	Maffei
Bartlett	Frank (MA)	Markey (CO)
Bean	Fudge	Markey (MA)
Becerra	Garrett (NJ)	Marshall
Berkley	Gohmert	Massa
Berman	Gonzalez	Matheson
Berry	Gordon (TN)	Matsui
Bilbray	Grayson	McCarthy (NY)
Bishop (GA)	Green, Al	McCollum
Bishop (NY)	Green, Gene	McDermott
Blumenauer	Griffith	McGovern
Bocieri	Grijalva	McIntyre
Boswell	Hall (NY)	McMahon
Boucher	Halvorson	McNerney
Boyd	Hare	Meek (FL)
Brady (PA)	Harman	Meeks (NY)
Braley (IA)	Hastings (FL)	Melancon
Brown, Corrine	Heinrich	Michaud
Butterfield	Heller	Miller (NC)
Capps	Herseth Sandlin	Miller, George
Cardoza	Higgins	Mollohan
Carnahan	Hill	Moore (KS)
Carson (IN)	Hinchee	Moore (WI)
Castor (FL)	Hinojosa	Moran (VA)
Chaffetz	Hirono	Murphy (CT)
Chandler	Hodes	Murphy, Patrick
Childers	Holden	Murtha
Chu	Holt	Nadler (NY)
Clarke	Hoyer	Napolitano
Clay	Inslee	Neal (MA)
Cleaver	Israel	Nye
Clyburn	Jackson (IL)	Oberstar
Cohen	Jackson-Lee	Obey
Connolly (VA)	(TX)	Olson
Conyers	Johnson (GA)	Olver
Costello	Johnson, E. B.	Ortiz
Courtney	Jones	Owens
Cuellar	Kagen	Pallone
Cummings	Kanjorski	Pascarella
Dahlkemper	Kaptur	Pastor (AZ)
Davis (AL)	Kennedy	Paul
Davis (CA)	Kildee	Payne
Davis (IL)	Kilpatrick (MI)	Perlmutter
Davis (TN)	Kilroy	Perriello
DeFazio	Kind	Peters
DeGette	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Peterson
Delahunt	Kissell	Pingree (ME)
DeLauro	Klein (FL)	Platts
Dent	Kucinich	Polis (CO)
Dicks	Langevin	Pomeroy
Doggett	Larsen (WA)	Price (NC)
Doyle	Larson (CT)	Quigley
Driehaus	Lee (CA)	Rahall
Edwards (MD)	Levin	Rangel
Edwards (TX)	Lewis (GA)	Reyes
Ehlers	Linder	Richardson
Ellison	Lipinski	Rodriguez

Ross	Sires
Roybal-Allard	Skelton
Ruppersberger	Slaughter
Rush	Smith (WA)
Ryan (OH)	Snyder
Sánchez, Linda	Space
T.	Speier
Sanchez, Loretta	Spratt
Sarbanes	Stark
Schakowsky	Stupak
Schiff	Sutton
Schrader	Taylor
Schwartz	Teague
Scott (GA)	Thompson (CA)
Scott (VA)	Thompson (MS)
Serrano	Tierney
Sestak	Titus
Shea-Porter	Tonko
Sherman	Towns

Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—166

Aderholt	Frelinghuysen
Adler (NJ)	Gallely
Akin	Giffords
Alexander	Gingrey (GA)
Altmire	Goodlatte
Arcuri	Granger
Austria	Graves
Bachmann	Guthrie
Bachus	Hall (TX)
Barton (TX)	Harper
Biggart	Hastings (WA)
Bishop (UT)	Hensarling
Blackburn	Herger
Boehner	Himes
Bonner	Hoekstra
Bono Mack	Hunter
Boozman	Inglis
Boren	Issa
Boustany	Jenkins
Brady (TX)	Johnson (IL)
Brown (GA)	Johnson, Sam
Brown-Waite,	Jordan (OH)
Ginny	King (IA)
Buchanan	King (NY)
Burgess	Kingston
Burton (IN)	Kirk
Buyer	Kline (MN)
Calvert	Kosmas
Camp	Kratovil
Campbell	Lamborn
Cao	Lance
Capito	Latham
Carney	LaTourette
Carter	Latta
Cassidy	Lee (NY)
Castle	Lewis (CA)
Coble	LoBiondo
Coffman (CO)	Lucas
Cole	Luetkemeyer
Conaway	Lungren, Daniel
Crenshaw	E.
Culberson	Mack
Davis (KY)	Manzullo
Diaz-Balart, L.	Marchant
Diaz-Balart, M.	McCarthy (CA)
Donnelly (IN)	McCauley
Dreier	McClintock
Duncan	McCotter
Ellsworth	McHenry
Emerson	McKeon
Fallin	McMorris
Flake	Rodgers
Fleming	Mica
Forbes	Miller (FL)
Fortenberry	Miller (MI)
Fox	Miller, Gary
Franks (AZ)	Minnick

NOT VOTING—25

Barrett (SC)	Crowley	Pitts
Bilirakis	Deal (GA)	Rothman (NJ)
Blunt	Dingell	Salazar
Bright	Garamendi	Sullivan
Brown (SC)	Gerlach	Tanner
Cantor	Gutierrez	Wexler
Capuano	Honda	Yarmuth
Cooper	Maloney	
Costa	Murphy, Tim	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1237

Messrs. WITTMAN, CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KOSMAS, Messrs.

ARCURI, and CASSIDY changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. GOHMERT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 896, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3791, FIRE GRANTS RE-AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on House Resolution 909, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 242, nays 174, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 897]

YEAS—242

Abercrombie	Delahunt	Johnson (GA)
Ackerman	DeLauro	Johnson, E. B.
Adler (NJ)	Dicks	Kagen
Altmire	Doggett	Kanjorski
Andrews	Donnelly (IN)	Kaptur
Arcuri	Doyle	Kennedy
Baca	Driehaus	Kildee
Baldwin	Edwards (MD)	Kilpatrick (MI)
Barrow	Edwards (TX)	Kilroy
Bean	Ellison	Kind
Becerra	Ellsworth	Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Berkley	Engel	Kissell
Berman	Eshoo	Klein (FL)
Berry	Etheridge	Kosmas
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Kratovil
Bishop (NY)	Fattah	Langevin
Blumenauer	Filner	Larsen (WA)
Bocieri	Foster	Larson (CT)
Boren	Frank (MA)	Lee (CA)
Boswell	Fudge	Levin
Boucher	Garamendi	Lewis (GA)
Boyd	Giffords	Lipinski
Brady (PA)	Gonzalez	Loebsack
Braley (IA)	Gordon (TN)	Lofgren, Zoe
Brown, Corrine	Grayson	Lowey
Butterfield	Green, Al	Luján
Capps	Green, Gene	Lynch
Cardoza	Griffith	Maffei
Carnahan	Grijalva	Maloney
Carney	Gutierrez	Markey (CO)
Carson (IN)	Hall (NY)	Markey (MA)
Castor (FL)	Halvorson	Marshall
Chandler	Hare	Massa
Childers	Harman	Matheson
Chu	Hastings (FL)	Matsui
Clarke	Heinrich	McCarthy (NY)
Clay	Herseth Sandlin	McCollum
Cleaver	Higgins	McDermott
Clyburn	Hill	McGovern
Cohen	Himes	McIntyre
Connolly (VA)	Hinchee	McMahon
Conyers	Hinojosa	McNerney
Costello	Hirono	Meek (FL)
Courtney	Hodes	Meeks (NY)
Cuellar	Holden	Melancon
Cummings	Holt	Michaud
Dahlkemper	Honda	Miller (NC)
Davis (AL)	Hoyer	Miller, George
Davis (CA)	Inslee	Mitchell
Davis (IL)	Israel	Mollohan
Davis (TN)	Jackson (IL)	Moore (KS)
DeFazio	Jackson-Lee	Moore (WI)
DeGette	(TX)	Moran (VA)